



February 15th, 2013

Phillip Lindley, Executive Director
ConnectME Authority
Cross State Office Building
State House Station 78
Augusta, Maine 04333-0078

Re: Pre-Application Letter – Sunshine Broadband Project

Dear Phil:

In response to the Authority's announcement of its Eighth grant round, Premium Choice Broadband is pleased to submit this Pre-Application letter for our Sunshine Broadband Project.

1. We propose to install a relay station in the town that will cover approximately 35 households. At present there is no broadband service at all offered within the area.
2. FairPoint has told local residents that they have no firm immediate plans to serve the community; and this statement is confirmed by the fact that FairPoint has not identified the Sunshine area as a location scheduled for network upgrades in their FCC-mandated "Short-Term Public Notice of Planned Network Modifications" letters.
3. We intend to install a wireless relay station with speeds of up to 3.0Mbps/.76Mbps will be offered, with an expected standard service plan of 1.5Mbps/512Kbps. We believe that the Sunshine Broadband Project can bring our first customers on-line within 90 days of confirmed funding of the project, with final completion within 12 months.
4. Current estimated project cost is \$34,000 , subject to revision at the time of our formal application as the project details are worked out. We are requesting funding for \$17,000, representing 50% of the estimated project cost.
5. Premium Choice Broadband, will fund \$17,000, or 50% of the estimated project cost. Premium Choice has successfully carried out projects funded by the Authority in prior grant rounds, and we are committed meet our obligations – financial, management, and operational – with respect to the Sunshine Broadband Project.
6. We estimate that approximately 35 residences will be served by this relay with at least 10 customers signing up for service in the first 12 months.
7. We are working with Sunshine residents to gather support for this project. We will provide evidence of community support with our formal application.
8. Premium Choice Broadband currently serves over 150 towns from 62 locations with wireless technology to over 2300 customers covering 5600 square miles. Premium Choice has a well-established record of using hard work and ingenuity in order to bring our services to rural Maine communities. We will be happy to provide more detailed evidence of our experience upon request.

Premium Choice Broadband, looks forward to the formal application process and to accomplishing the Authority's objectives in the service area of the Sunshine Broadband Project. If you have any questions about this Pre-Application letter, please give us a call or e-mail us; our contact information appears below. We will be happy to respond. Thank you for your consideration of our proposed application.

Premium Choice Broadband

William L. Varney
Chief Executive Officer
12 Stevens Road
Brewer, Maine 04412
Office: (207) 735-2611
Cell: (207) 949-2031
billvarney@aol.com